

THE CHICAGO NEWS BULLETIN

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"BRICKS WITHOUT STRAW"

"One cannot make bricks without straw". The foregoing is an old expression whose principle holds true in things of greatly varied nature.

To those unfamiliar with the bricklaying industry an explanation will be helpful in grasping the full meaning of the quotation.

A brick is made by mixing a clay of the proper quality with straw, forming into the proper shape and baking for a number of hours. The clay forms the body of the brick and despite appearances is comparatively weak in its self. In order that it have strength it is necessary to use straw to bind the various parts of the brick together as a unit.

Another example of the principle of using something as a binder to hold something else together may be seen in the reinforced concrete buildings that are being put up now a days. In these, steel bars are encased in concrete. The concrete gives the posts and walls their size and shape and the steel gives them their strength.

Even in a book, to make a story it is necessary to have threads of interest running through it.

If, in making brick, building buildings, or writing stories, it is necessary to have something to hold the integral units together - so in our Club it would seem necessary that we need principles to hold it together.

The basic principle that originally brought us together was common interest in amateur radio. Due to outside influences, new radio legislation and so forth, we all are gradually dropping out of the amateur game and in doing so bringing about a condition that exists when bricks are made without straw; no common ties.

In other words we are approaching a condition of inertia as far as new ideas and new common interests are concerned. We are really at the turning of the road - it is time to decide whether or not we are going to stick to the old ship with its out-of-date principles or reorganize, get some new life in the Club, and get under way again.

The best way to do it will probably be to get some new members who are of our type, study and discuss the situation thoroughly and to try to get every member to work as hard as he can in the Club's interest.

REVIEW OF MONTH'S MEETINGS

On the night of May 8th a good old fashioned meeting was held at the home of Geo. and Cliff, 9CN. It started out with the presentation of the prizes recently won at the Bowling Tournament. Hans Bagge received his voltmeter donated by Al Bruning and Freddy Martens got the choke donated by the other local organization.

We then voted on a prospective member who was not elected. Following the voting, a very hot discussion took place. Mr. Kerrigan took one of the leading parts. It was finally decided that a new member must fill out an application and if any of the gang has anything against the fellow it shall be put in writing and shall be read anonymously at a meeting.

The meeting then adjourned to the dining room for a nice spread of refreshments furnished by Geo. and Cliff.

At Jimmy Kruse's home May 23 nothing of importance happened except the discussion about the Milwaukee Convention followed by refreshments and a card game.

THE MILWAUKEE CONVENTION May 25th, 26th, and 27th

The Chicago Nines Club was well represented at the first Central Division Convention held at Milwaukee May 25th, 26th and 27th. Out of the total membership of twenty-three there were thirteen present. Those who attended were as follows: - E. E. Enke (9VJ), V. Kerrigan (SAFE), J. Buck (9CEB), A. Bruning (9AAN), G. D. Schmidt (9CN), T. Ward (9BBW), K. Jensen (9WD), Hans Bagge, Fred Martens (9EFF), Henry Martens (9EFF), E. Passow (5ASD and 9ALG), A. Steig (9IJ), E. Rolfsen (9DEN).

The first two to arrive were H. Martens (9EFF) and G. C. Schmidt (9CN) who left Chicago Friday noon. Saturday morning and afternoon were devoted to registration and "get acquainted". All the "Chi 9s" present traveled to the Convention in cars.

Friday night, May 25th, a smoker was held in the Colonial Room of the Republican Hotel. A talk by K. E. Warner and a general discussion was held.

Saturday, May 26th, a series of fundamental experiments was held at the Wisconsin School of Engineering. This was broadcast by W.I.S.N. and 9SO. A talk was given by Mr. Hartley of the Wisconsin Bell Telephone on Television. The subject was very well handled and explained in such a manner so that the principles were understood by all present. A talk on Amateur Status was given by Communication Manager Mr. F. E. Handy. He dealt with the present status of the Amateur and how this high standard could be maintained. Talks were also given by C. E. Darr (8ZZ) and Angus (9CYQ). The meeting was appreciated by all present. Adjournment was made at 5:30 P.M.

Saturday, May 26th, was devoted to a banquet held in the Colonial Room of the Hotel. The "Chi 9s" had a section of the center table reserved and we were very prominent among the whole assemblage. A delicious banquet was served and thoroughly enjoyed by all present. The Milwaukee Club put on a very fine bill of entertainment which was certainly enjoyed, especially by T. Ward, and G. Schmidt who tried to take home a few souvenirs from the entertainers. Immediately after the banquet a prize drawing was held. T. Ward drew a box of Cracker Jack and A. Steig drew a box of clips.

After the banquet talks were given by members of the Headquarters Staff.

The Banquet adjourned about 13:00 P.M. and everyone thoroughly enjoyed himself.